

6334 W. 80th St.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90045
October 13, 1971

Mr. Douglas Liesz
Regional Forester
Department of Agriculture
630 Sansome St.
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Liesz:

copy
We recently heard from Mr. Vernet Smith regarding his conversation with you on October 6 concerning the problems at Mineral King. We appreciate your interest.

Of course we were pleased to hear that we will be able to post material regarding the proposed plans for Mineral King on the bulletin board there. It is also encouraging to hear that you plan to look into the parking situation there.

Having been out of the country in 1970, we were truly discouraged by the paradoxical situation we found at Mineral King this past summer, from the destruction of the picturesque old Davis cabin, which should have been preserved as part of the history of the area, to the greatly reduced camping and parking facilities.

In spite of a larger staff of rangers, the number of camping spaces had been sharply curtailed. Vehicles were prohibited from entering the upper end of the valley, completely eliminating for the average family, the camps located there. Several other former camps were reserved for picnicking only, although this isolated area does not lend itself to picnicking. Parking space was also very limited, with "no parking" signs posted at nearly every available spot, causing additional frustration and a proliferation of signs in the area.

We feel the staff's time would be put to better use, and the forest more fully enjoyed and appreciated if, in accordance with good environmental management, more, rather than fewer camping and parking spaces were developed. It would seem that the arbitrary limitation of space, when ample space is actually available would be troublesome to the public and to the Forest Service personnel alike. We do hope these problems can be resolved before next summer. We feel as many campers as possible should be allowed to enjoy the beauty of Mineral King.

Again, let us express our appreciation of your interest. We have enjoyed Mineral King for many years, and as our family has grown older, we have back packed each summer in the area. We would be pleased to have you visit us when you are at Mineral King.

Sincerely,

Richard Koch, m.D.
Jean Koch

cc: M. R. James
Robert Werner

2023.004.0053 a

Post of Aug.
USFS Douglas Liesz
630 Sansome St

Ramparts Magazine
October

Dear Mr. Liesz,

We recently heard from our friend, Vernet Smith regarding his conversation with you on October 6 concerning the problems at Mineral King. We appreciate your interest.

Of course we were pleased to hear that we will be able to post material regarding the proposed plans for Mineral King on the bulletin board there. It is also encouraging to hear that you plan to look into the parking situation.

Having been out of the country during 1970, we were truly discouraged by the paradoxical situation we found at Mineral King this past summer, from the destruction of the picturesque old Davis cabin, which should have been preserved as part of the history of the area, to the sharply reduced camping and parking facilities, at a time when there is increasing need for such facilities.

In spite of a larger staff of rangers, the number of camping spaces had been sharply curtailed, with no camping allowed in the upper part of the valley, and with several other former camps reserved only for picnicing, although this isolated area does not lend itself to picnicing. Parking space was also very limited, with "no parking" signs posted at nearly every available spot, causing additional frustration and a proliferation of signs in the area.

We feel the staff's time would be put to better use, and the public better served, and the forest more fully enjoyed and appreciated by its owners if more, rather than fewer camping and parking spaces were developed. It would seem that the arbitrary limitation of space, when ample space is actually available would be troublesome to the public and to the Forest Service personnel alike. We do hope these problems can be resolved before next summer. We feel as many campers as possible should be able to enjoy the beauty of Mineral King.

Again, let us express our appreciation of your interest. We have enjoyed Mineral King for many years, and as our family has grown older, we have enjoyed back-packing in the area. We would be pleased to have you visit us when you are at Mineral King.

Sincerely,

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Koch

What do you
think, Dick?

in accordance with
good environmental
management.

would be
if, in

Tom

Shirley
Called
625

10.50
9.17
25.20
2.27
5.44
8.40
60.98

Schmitzer
1300

Nov. 30

387-6882

Mary Ferguson
Secretary

Sierra Club Office L.A.

Southern Sierran

deadline? Publication date?

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408 335-4219
OR
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